Trenton Aquifer

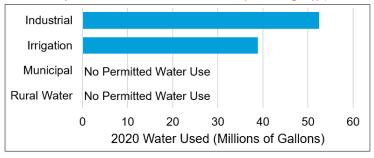
McKenzie and Williams Counties

Aquifer At-a-Glance		
Area	54.2 square miles	
Aquifer Type	Unconfined Surficial	
Major Land Uses over Aquifer	Open Water/Wetlands (47%)	
(percentage of aquifer area covered in 2017) ¹	Crops (44%)	
Depth to Water (2021)*	3-15 feet	
Total Unique Wells Sampled	30	
Wells Sampled in 2021	12	
Samples Collected in 2021	13	
Years Sampled	1996, 2001, 2006, 2011, 2016, 2021	
*Depths to water may vary seasonally, year to year, and across the aquit		

- Aquifer materials consist of sands and gravels. Pockets of silty clay are interspersed. Most of these materials were deposited by the Yellowstone and Missouri Rivers when they were blocked by glaciers north of Williston during the last ice age.²
- The aquifer is estimated to average 50-70 feet thick.²
- Domestic wells are common in the aquifer. Irrigation and stock wells are also installed in the aquifer.
- In North Dakota, permits are required to withdraw large quantities of groundwater. In 2020, 91 million gallons of permitted water were drawn from the aquifer; industrial use consumed the largest quantity of water. For more information on water use and permits, contact the North Dakota Department of Water Resources (dwr.nd.gov).



2020 Trenton aquifer permitted water use (from North Dakota Department of Water Resources (dwr.nd.gov))↓



About the Agricultural Groundwater Monitoring Program

- The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality monitors a network of wells in approximately 50 surficial aquifers that are at elevated risk of agricultural contamination.
- Aquifers are sampled on a 5-year rotation.
- Monitoring began in 1992.
- The vast majority of these aquifers are located in central and eastern North Dakota.
- Water is tested for 21 general chemistry parameters, eight trace metals, and 64 pesticides.

References

US Department of Agriculture, 2017, National Agricultural Statistics Service Cropland Data Layer.
 Armstrong, C.A., 1969, Geology and Ground Water Resources of Williams County, North Dakota, North

2) Armstrong, C.A., 1969, Geology and Ground Water Resources of Williams County, North Dakota, North Dakota State Water Commission County Ground Water Studies 9-Part 3, North Dakota Geological Survey Bulletin 48.

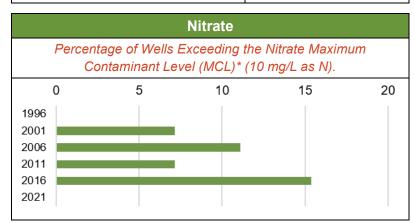
Water Chemistry

Is Aquifer Water High in...

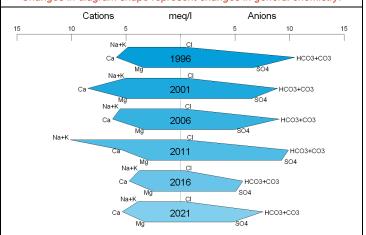
	Analyte	Result	2021 Median Concentration	Potential Effects	
	Arsenic	YES	0.015 mg/L	Skin or circulatory system damage, increased cancer risk	
r	Iron	YES	9.14 mg/L	Metallic taste/odor, discoloration of surfaces	
	Manganese	YES	0.67 mg/L		
?	Sodium	Locally	85.1 mg/L	Taste, people with certain health conditions may need to limit intake	
	Sulfate	Locally	230 mg/L	Taste/odor, laxative effect for people not used to the water	

For more information about Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), health effects, and treatment options for these contaminants and more, see the NDDEQ's fact sheets (deq.nd.gov/wq/1_Groundwater) or visit the US EPA website (epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water).

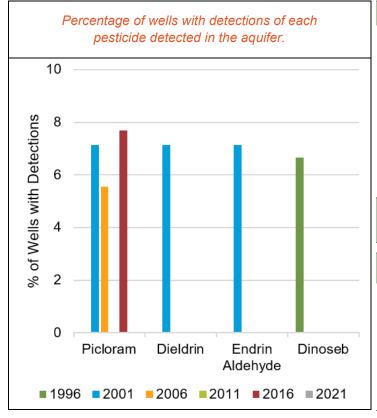
Dominant Water Type	Water Hardness
Calcium-Bicarbonate	Very Hard



Stiff diagram of aquifer median general water chemistry. Changes in diagram shape represent changes in general chemistry Cations meq/l Anions



Pesticides



State Pesticide Management Plan

Agricultural Groundwater Monitoring Program aquifers are monitored as a part of the State Pesticide Management Plan. A Prevention Action Level (PAL) threshold of 25% of the pesticide's Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)* or Health Advisory Level (HAL) is used to identify whether action is needed to prevent further contamination.

Prevention Action Level Exceedances	None
MCL or HAL Exceedances	None

Number of Unique Wells with 3 of 30 Total Wells Pesticide Detections since 1996

2021 Pesticide Detections

No Pesticide Detections

*Note that MCLs are for public drinking water systems; private wells are not regulated in North Dakota. MCLs still provide guidelines for drinking groundwater.